



THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SA INC.

Gazette

November 2025

Patron: Coralie Hills FAOC
President: Michael Willoughby

AT A GLANCE

The November General Meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club will be held on Wednesday 5th November 2025 at 8.00 pm. at the Marion-Warradale Uniting Church Hall, Corner of Township Road and Church Crescent. This is Sarcophilus Night with the George & Patty Abell Trophy so bring along your Sarcs for judging.. Our Guest Speaker will be James Argent who will demonstrate floral art using Orchids. His creations will amaze you..

LEARNERS' GROUP: There will be a Learners' Group Meeting at the November Meeting at 7.15pm. All members are welcome to attend. Bring your problems/plants for discussion.

JUDGING: Please have your plants benched by 7.40pm so Judging can commence at 7.50pm. If you are running late due to work commitments please phone Phil on 0438 891 612.

DAYTIME CHAPTER: The next meeting will be held on Thursday 13th November 2025 at 2.00pm at the Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton. Our Guest Speakers will be Vicky and Neil Cooper. Vicky will conduct a "Grow and Tell" Group. Neil will share some insights into his role in capturing the countless numbers of photos we see each month in the Gazette.

SOUTHERN REGION: The next meeting will be Sunday 16th November 2025 2.00 pm at Carrickalinga House, Victor Harbor. Our Guest Speaker will be Michael Willoughby who will introduce us to "The Glass Flowers". The Ware Collection in the Harvard Museum of Natural History. Learners' Group will start at 1:15pm

NEW MEMBERS: The Club would like to welcome four new members Tricia Garnett, Mary Todd, Jo Cullen and Tim Hisee. We hope that your time with the Club will be a happy one and that you learn a lot about the orchids that we all love so much.

LUCKY NAME BADGE: Make sure you wear your Name Badge to meetings, you may win a prize.

PUBLIC LIABILITY: Under Insurance Guidelines all members and Committee attending any function or meeting held by the Club must sign and print your name in an Attendance Book.



**Garden City Plastics
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[President@ SCOCSA.com.au](mailto:President@SCOCSA.com.au)
Address: PO Box 1060, Flagstaff Hill SA 5159
ABN 83 245 384 076





YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 2025

PRESIDENT:	Michael Willoughby	0479 162 527
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT:	Alan Miller	
TREASURER:	Anne Steer	0418 840 427
SECRETARY:	Graham Smith	0428 818 586
COMMITTEE:	Oui Ju	
	Richard Crinion	
	Marilyn Buckerfield	
	Phil Steer	
	Carolyn Ponsana	
	Malcolm Mangelsdorf	

NON COMMITTEE POSITIONS:

Registrar	Phil Steer	0438 891 612
Editor	Christine Robertson	0438 363 940
Photographer	Neil Cooper	
Convenor S. R. Group	Chris Heysen	0419 386 769
Convenors Daytime Chapter	Alan Miller	0434 052 676
Convenor Main Learners Group	Graham Smith	

LIFE MEMBERS

* denotes Member who has passed away.

1978 Dulcie Grave *	1986 Harry Viney *	2009 Don Biebrick *
1978 Leora Harvey	1986 John Nicholls *	2009 Henk Van Leuveren *
1978 L. & H. Poole *	1989 Helen Edwards	2010 Dorothy Carassai
1978 Ellie Shaw *	1990 Dr, Keith Northcote *	2011 John and Bev Gay*
1979 Syd Monkhouse	2003 Norman Gitsham *	2012 Noel Oliver *
1979 Bernie Hanson *	2005 Merve Steele *	2015 Lesley Fenton
1981 Lois Hanson *	2005 Shirley Steele *	2015 Rod McRedmond
1981 John Leeder*	Circa Tony and Toshy Deonno *	2018 Kevin Western
1985 Brenda Lynch*	2007 Ron and Irene Parish	2020 Malcolm Mangelsdorf
1985 Bubs Gready *	2007 Murray Baulderstone *	2021 Donna Meeuwssen
	2008 Geoff and Lucy Spear	2025 Michael Willoughby

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Subscriptions are now due for 2025. There will be no changes to the Rates for 2025.

RATES – One membership covers all groups

Family Membership	\$38.00
Single Membership	\$30.00
Junior Membership	\$22.00

Rural and Interstate Membership

Family Membership	\$34.00
Single Membership	\$28.00

Account Details: BankSA Glenelg. BSB: 105-145 Account No.: 545457040
 (Use your grower number for Reference)

PLEASE NOTE: Because of increases in postage rates, posting out of accounts for membership renewals will be discontinued. A cover letter will be sent with the Gazette at the appropriate time.



President's Message

November is the time we have our *Sarcochilus* feature evening with the George and Patty Abell Perpetual Trophy being awarded to the Champion *Sarcochilus*. It is an open competition, that is all divisions competing against each other, so bring along your 'Sarcs' as they always put on a great show.

Many thanks to Oui Ju who gave an interesting and informative presentation on 'Cattleya orchids his way'. Many questions were asked by the members from which discussions arose with input from the members, Cattleyas were the topic of the day at the Daytime group, also. This time it was Phil Steer who spoke about and gave a potting demonstration in this popular group of orchids. The Southern Region group welcomed back Trevor Garard who spoke on Cymbidium Orchids as well as providing a practical potting demonstration.

This month we welcome James Argent who will be presenting an interesting topic that is flower arranging. His creations will amaze you. The Daytime group will welcome back Vicky and Neil Cooper who always have interesting topics for the members, so come along enjoy and learn something that you can put into growing your orchids. At the Southern Region meeting this month, I will be presenting "The Glass Flowers", a fascinating look into incredible glasswork we happened upon in The Harvard Museum of Natural History.

Don't forget to see Anne or myself if you are able to join us for the Christmas Dinner at the Morphett Arms Hotel on Friday 5th December at 6.30pm, more details in this Gazette.

Successful growing & showing

Michael Willoughby

STEPHEN MONKHOUSE ORCHIDS PRESENTS

Here is a unique opportunity to purchase mature *Dendrobium* plants from a private collection in Adelaide that have been carefully selected from interstate growers over the last 40 years. Due to health reasons the owner needs to reduce and I am lucky to be able to sell his plants for him. Many are very large and will require large cartons, but the great thing is you will be purchasing semi specimen plants that will flower next year. Many are in flower now.

EMAIL: stephenmonkhouse013@gmail.com or **phone** 0413 760 662.

Editor's Note: I have included a three photos to show you the types of orchids available. There are almost 100 different orchid plants available. I am sure if you contact Steven he will send you a catalogue of the orchids for sale, or you can contact me on 0438 363 940





ORCHID CALENDAR 2025

MAIN MEETING

Wednesday 5th November 2025 at 8.00 pm
Marion-Warradale Uniting Church Hall, Cnr of Township Rd and Church Crescent, Marion. Guest Speaker: James Argent demonstrating floral art using Orchids. His creations will amaze you. Sarcochilus Night with the George & Patty Abell Trophy Learners Group Meeting at 7.15 pm

COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 12th November 2025 7.30 pm
The Southern, South Road, St. Marys

DAYTIME CHAPTER

Thursday 13th November 2025 at 2.00pm
Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton. Guest Speakers: Vicky & Neil Cooper. Vicky will conduct a "Grow and Tell" Group. Neil will share some insights into his role in capturing the countless numbers of photos each month in the Gazette.

SOUTHERN REGION MEETING

Sunday 16th November 2025 2.00 pm
Carrickalinga House, Victor Harbor Guest Speaker: Michael Willoughby with "The Glass Flowers" The Ware Collection in the Harvard Museum of Natural History. Learners Group will meet at 1.15pm.

CHRISTMAS MEETING:

Wednesday 3rd Decemember 2025
Christmas Raffle, Kris Kringle, Plant Judging, Presentation of the Winning Plants for the year by Phil Steer, and Supper.

CHRISTMAS DINNER:

Friday 5th December 2025 at 6.30 pm
Morphett Arms Hotel, 138 Morphett Rd, Glengowrie
See Anne or Michael to register if you intend to attend.



CHRISTMAS DINNER



The Christmas Dinner will be at the Morphett Arms Hotel, 138 Morphett Rd Glengowrie at 6.30 pm on Friday 5th December. The menu is A La Carte and Individual payment is required.

If you are attending could you let Anne know at the November meeting as booking numbers will need to be finalized.

At the December main meeting on Wednesday 3rd December there will be a Christmas raffle, Kris Kringle, judging of plants, a short guest speaker presentation, and supper.



Happy Birthday

**LESLEY FENTON, BILL JAYNE,
CHRISTINE ROBERTSON, DON HIGGS,
CAROL PONSANA, ANDREW DEAN,
STEVE HOWARD, DORA SCHRAPEL,
RAY HUDDLESTON, GENNY HUXTABLE**



Is your name in the Birthday Book ?? Please see **Anne Steer**



2025 SPRING SHOW CHAMPIONS

GRAND CHAMPION CHAMPION OPEN DIVISION

Paph. (Hsinying Leopard x Doya)

CHAMP. PAPHIOPEDILUM

John Seidel

CHAMPION FIRST DIVISION

Coel. Unchained Melody 'Snowdrift'

CHAMP. OTHER GENERA

Beth Stronach

CHAMPION SECOND DIVISION

Cym. (Fifi x Camaro)

Pauline McLean

CHAMPION CYMBIDIUM Over 90mm

Cym. Lowio-grandiflorum

Helen McIntosh

CHAMPION CYMBIDIUM 60-90mm

Cym. Devon Biggs

Graham Fear

CHAMPION CYMBIDIUM Under 60mm

Cym. Regal Fire 'Superb'

Bill Jayne

Elsie Chisholm Trophy - Best Novelty Cymbidium

Cym. Freaky Black Magic 'Ross Watts'

Laurie & Sue Carter

CHAMPION LAELIINAE

C. Aloha Case 'Ching Hua'

Laurie & Sue Carter

CHAMPION ONCIDIINAE

Alcra. Snowblind

Vicky & Neil Cooper

CHAMPION ZYGOPETALUM

Z. Purple Panther 'Pride'

Vicky & Neil Cooper

CHAMPION AUSTRALIAN NATIVE CHAMPION SPECIMEN

Den. striolatum 'Bicheno Gold'

CHAMPION SPECIES

Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju

M. Ng Trophy - Most Floriferous Australian Native

Den. speciosum var. curvicaule

Ron & Irene Parish

CHAMPION PHALAENOPSIS

Phal. Unknown

Graham & Jeanette Smith

CHAMPION SEEDLING

Den. (Newbold Beauty x Issy's Pride)

Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR CHAMPION WINNERS

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE SPRING SHOW

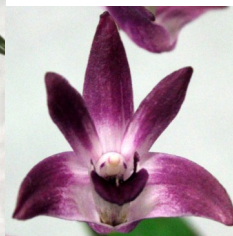


All photos by Neil Cooper

**GRAND CHAMPION / CHAMPION
OPEN DIVISION
CHAMPION PAPHIOPEDILUM**
Paph. (Hsinying Leopard x Doya)
John Seidel



**CHAMPION FIRST DIVISION
CHAMPION OTHER GENERA**
Coel. Unchained Melody 'Snowdrift'
Beth Stronach



CHAMPION SEEDLING
Den. (Newbold Beauty x Issy's Pride)
Michael Willoughby & Oui ju



CHAMPION ZYGOPETALUM
Z. Purple Panther 'Pride'
Vicky & Neil Cooper



CHAMPION LAELIINAE
C. Aloha Case 'Ching Hua'
Laurie & Sue Carter



CHAMP. CYMBIDIUM 60-90 mm
Cym. Devon Biggs
Grown by Graham Fear

CHAMPION PHALAENOPSIS
Phal. Unknown
Graham & Jeanette Smith





CHAMPION CYMBIDIUM Under 60mm
Cym. Regal Fire 'Superb'
 Bill Jayne



CHAMPION ONCIDIINAE
Alcra. Snowblind
 Vicky & Neil Cooper



CHAMP. CYMBIDIUM Over 90mm
Cym. Lowio-grandiflorum
 Helen McIntosh

**CHAMPION AUSTRALIAN NATIVE
 CHAMPION SPECIES
 CHAMPION SPECIMEN**
Den. striolatum 'Bicheno Gold'
 Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju



CHAMPION SECOND DIVISION
Cym. (Fifi x Camaro)
 Pauline McLean



2025 Spring Show Results List

OPEN DIVISION

Australian Native epiphyte - Species

Den. striolatum 'Bicheno Gold'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
Den. striolatum 'Ruffles'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2

Australian Native epiphyte - Hybrid -

Den. Tyabb 'PJ-K'	Peter Haltis (442)	3
Den. (Newbpld Beauty x Issy's Pride)	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2

Australian Native epiphyte - Hybrid - Other

Den. Brimbank Cosmic Gold	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
Den. Greta Snow	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2

Australian Native terrestrial - Species

Diuris canopiallata	Don & Jane Higgs (1302)	3
Ptst. curta variegata	Don & Jane Higgs (1302)	2

Australian Native terrestrial - Hybrid

Ptst. Hoodwink	Don & Jane Higgs (1302)	3
Diuris Earwig	Don & Jane Higgs (1302)	2

Australian Native - Seedling -

Den. (Newbold Beauty x Issy's Pride)	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Australian Native - Seedling - Chin Yew Lian

Den. (Newbold Beauty x Issy's Pride)	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
Den. Brimbank Eclipsed	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2

Australian Native - Specimen

Den. striolatum 'Bicheno Gold'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
Den. speciosum var. curvicaule	Ron & Irene Parish (477)	2

BEST AUSTRALIAN NATIVE

Den. striolatum 'Bicheno Gold'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Cymbidium over 90mm -

Cym. Lowio-grandiflorum	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Cymbidium over 90mm - Any other colour

Cym. Beautiful Ruby	Don & Jane Higgs (1302)	3
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Cymbidium over 90mm - Red/ Pink/Brown

Cym. Lancashire Khan 'Debonair'	Don & Jane Higgs (1302)	3
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BEST CYMBIDIUM - over 90mm

Cym. Lancashire Khan 'Debonair'	Don & Jane Higgs (1302)	3
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Cymbidium 60 - 90mm - Red/ Pink/Brown

Cym. Gypsy Rose 'Princes'	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	3
Cym. Regal Fire 'Superb'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2

Cymbidium under 60mm -

Cym. Spark Sprite	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
Cym. Sarah Jean 'Vapour'	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	2

Cymbidium under 60mm - Any other colour

Cym. Unknown	Peter Haltis (442)	3
Cym. Memoria Amelia Earhart	Ron & Irene Parish (477)	2

Cymbidium under 60mm - Specimen

Cym. Unknown	Peter Haltis (442)	3
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BEST CYMBIDIUM - under 60mm

Cym. Unknown	Peter Haltis (442)	3
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Dendrobium (not Aust Native) - Hybrid

Den. Tweetas 'Violet Lip'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
Den. Oliver-Jack Freckles 'Gerard'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2

BEST DENDROBIUM - (Not Aust Native)

Den. Tweetas 'Violet Lip'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Laeliinae Standard Hybrid under 100mm

C. Rosella's Magic Jewels	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Laeliinae Non-Standard

C. Prince Albert	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
Bc. Topaz Galaxy	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2

BEST LAELIINAE

C. Prince Albert	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Oncidiinae Hybrid >60mm

Alcra. Snowblind	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	3
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Oncidiinae Hybrid <60mm

Onc. Space Mine 'Red Rondezzvous'	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	3
Ons. Sunlight 'Peskey Panther'	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	2

BEST ONCIDIINAE

Alcra. Snowblind	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	3
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2025 Spring Show Results List cont ...

Paphiopedilum - Species

Paph. venustum	John Seidel (101)	3
Paph. villosum	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2

Paphiopedilum - Standard

Paph. Coco Pawbella 'Zodiac'	John Seidel (101)	3
Paph. Winston Churchill	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2

Paphiopedilum - Non Standard

Paph. (Hsinying Leopard x Doya	John Seidel (101)	3
Paph. Fanaticum 'Mouliache'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2

BEST PAPHIOPEDILUM

Paph. (Hsinying Leopard x Doya	John Seidel (101)	3
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Zygopetalinae - Species

Z. maculatum	Don & Jane Higgs (1302)	3
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Zygopetalum - Hybrid

Z. Purple Panther 'Pride'	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	3
Unknown x (Unknown x Unknown)	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	2

Zygopetalinae - Intergeneric

Zba. Dragon Kitten 'Purr'	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	3
Zga. (Freestyle Meadows x Holdfast Bay)	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	2

BEST ZYGOPETALINAE

Z. Purple Panther 'Pride'	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	3
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Any other Genus - Species

Max. Porphyrostele 'Pinny'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
Serapias neglecta	Don & Jane Higgs (1302)	2

Any other Genus - Specimen

Max. porphyrostele 'Pinny'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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BEST ANY OTHER GENUS

Max. porphyrostele 'Pinny'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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FIRST DIVISION

Australian Native epiphyte - Species

Den. striolatum	Phil & Anne Steer (514)	3
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Australian Native epiphyte - Hybrid -

Den. Faye Roshan	Phil & Anne Steer (514)	3
Den. Victorian Splendour	Phil & Anne Steer (514)	2

Australian Native epiphyte - Hybrid -

Den. Andrew Persson	Phil & Anne Steer (514)	3
Den. (Special Memory x Brimbank Dural)	Phil & Anne Steer (514)	2

Australian Native epiphyte - Hybrid - Other

Den. (Gracillimum x Yondi Pioneer)	Phil & Anne Steer (514)	3
Den. Special Rainbow 'Anne's Pick'	Phil & Anne Steer (514)	2

Australian Native - Specimen

Den. striolatum	Phil & Anne Steer (514)	3
Den. Special Rainbow 'Anne's Pick'	Phil & Anne Steer (514)	2

BEST AUSTRALIAN NATIVE

Den. striolatum	Phil & Anne Steer (514)	3
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Cymbidium over 90mm -

Cym. Kimberley Valley 'Green Sensation'	Bill Jayne (1180)	3
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Cymbidium over 90mm - Any other colour

Cym. Kimberley Splash 'Tee Pee'	Beth Stronach (836)	3
Cym. Devon Biggs	Graham Fear (576)	3
Cym. Gattonense	Michael Gray (135)	2

Cymbidium over 90mm - Red/ Pink/Brown

Cym. Regal Princess 'Caitlin'	Laurie & Sue Carter (1303)	3
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Cymbidium over 90mm - Seedling - Chin

Cym. (Magic Lady x Strath Devine)	Bill Jayne (1180)	3
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BEST CYMBIDIUM - over 90mm

Cym. Kimberley Splash 'Tee Pee'	Beth Stronach (836)	3
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Cymbidium 60 - 90mm -

Cym. (Glory Daze x Sleeping Dream)	Beth Stronach (836)	3
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Cymbidium 60 - 90mm - Any other colour

Cym. Devon Biggs	Graham Fear (576)	3
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Cymbidium 60 - 90mm - Red/ Pink/Brown

Cym. Regal Flmes 'Red Opal'	Bill Jayne (1180)	3
Cym. Khanebono 'Jacinta'	Laurie & Sue Carter (1303)	2

Cymbidium 60 - 90mm - Specimen

Cym. (Glory Daze x Sleeping Dream)	Beth Stronach (836)	3
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BEST CYMBIDIUM - 60 to 90mm

Cym. Devon Biggs	Graham Fear (576)	3
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2025 Spring Show Results List cont ...

Cymbidium under 60mm - Species

Cym. eburneum Michael Gray (135) 3

Cymbidium under 60mm -

Cym. Sarah Jean 'Jennifer' Laurie & Sue Carter (1303) 3

Cymbidium under 60mm - Any other colour

Cym. Regal Fire 'Superb' Bill Jayne (1180) 3

Cym. Kristianne Marie Michael Gray (135) 2

Cymbidium under 60mm - Red/

Cym. Brook Street 'Featherhill' Graham Fear (576) 3

Cym. Akebono 'Dural' Bill Jayne (1180) 2

Cymbidium under 60mm - Specimen

Cym. Brook Street 'Featherhill' Graham Fear (576) 3

BEST CYMBIDIUM - under 60mm

Cym. Regal Fire 'Superb' Bill Jayne (1180) 3

Laeliinae Standard Hybrid under 100mm

C. Aloha Case 'Ching Hua' Laurie & Sue Carter (1303) 3

Rlc. Glen Maidment 'Southern Cross' Laurie & Sue Carter (1303) 2

Laeliinae - Cluster

Ctt. Adelaide Ablaze 'Sunburst' Phil & Anne Steer (514) 3

Laeliinae Non-Standard

Lc. Santa Barbara Sunset 'Tyabb' Michael Gray (135) 3

Lc. Santa Barbara Sunset 'Encore' Bill Jayne (1180) 3

Laeliinae - Specimen

Lc. Sanat Barbara Sunset 'Encore' Bill Jayne (1180) 3

BEST LAELIINAE

C. Aloha Case 'Ching Hua' Laurie & Sue Carter (1303) 3

Oncidiinae Hybrid >60mm

Aru. Sea Snake 'Unforgettable' Laurie & Sue Carter (1303) 3

Onc. Unknown Laurie & Sue Carter (1303) 2

Oncidiinae Hybrid <60mm

Onca. Aloha Iwanaga Laurie & Sue Carter (1303) 3

Osp. Sunkissed Laurie & Sue Carter (1303) 2

BEST ONCIDIINAE

Aru. Sea Snake 'Unforgettable' Laurie & Sue Carter (1303) 3

Paphiopedilum - Species

Paph. villosum Laurie & Sue Carter (1303) 3

Paphiopedilum - Non Standard

Psaph. Pepper Puddle Laurie & Sue Carter (1303) 3

Paph. [venustum x (Yachiyo Lady x Holdenii)] Beth Stronach (836) 2

BEST PAPHIOPEDILUM

Paph. Pepper Puddle Laurie & Sue Carter (1303) 3

Any other Genus - Species

Ludisia discolor Beth Stronach (836) 3

Max. chrysantha Beth Stronach (836) 2

Any other Genus - Hybrid

Coel. Unchained Melody 'Snowdrift' Beth Stronach (836) 3

Any other Genus - Specimen

Coel. Unchained Melody 'Snowdrift' Beth Stronach (836) 3

BEST ANY OTHER GENUS

Coel. Unchained Melody 'Snowdrift' Beth Stronach (836) 3

SECOND DIVISION

Australian Native epiphyte - Hybrid -

Den. Unknown x Unknown Helen McIntosh (299) 3

Den. Unknown Helen McIntosh (299) 2

Australian Native epiphyte - Hybrid -

Den. Unknown Pauline McLean (1053) 3

Australian Native epiphyte - Hybrid - Other

Den. (Victorian Flare x Victorian Stripe) Jim Fogarasi (150) 3

Sarco. (Kulnura Illumination x Unknown) Ralf Bandt (159) 2

Australian Native - Specimen

Den. (Victorian Flare x Victorian Stripe) Jim Fogarasi (150) 3

BEST AUSTRALIAN NATIVE

Den. (Unknown x Unknown) Helen McIntosh (299) 3

Cymbidium over 90mm -

Cym. Lowio-grandiflorum Helen McIntosh (299) 3

Cym. Sleeping Nymph Graham & Jeanette Smith (217) 2



2025 Spring Show Results List cont ...

Cymbidium over 90mm - Any other colour

Cym. Kimberley Spalsh 'Tee Pee'	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
Cym. Awesome Splash	Pauline McLean (1053)	2

Cymbidium over 90mm - Seedling - Chin

Cym. Awesome Splash	Pauline McLean (1053)	3
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BEST CYMBIDIUM - over 90mm

Cym. Lowio-grandiflorum	Helen McIntosh (299)	3
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Cymbidium 60 - 90mm - Any other colour

Cym. (Fifi x Camaro)	Pauline McLean (1053)	3
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Cymbidium 60 - 90mm - Red/ Pink/Brown

Cym. (Devon Shell x Street Tango)	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
Cym. Chilli Pepper 'Hot Stuff'	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	2

Cymbidium 60 - 90mm - Specimen

Cym. (Fifi x Camaro)	Pauline McLean (1053)	3
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BEST CYMBIDIUM - 60 to 90mm

Cym. (Fifi x Camaro)	Pauline McLean (1053)	3
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Cymbidium under 60mm -

Cym. Sarah Jean 'Cascade'	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
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Cymbidium under 60mm - Any other colour

Cym. Mary Green 'Gables'	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
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BEST CYMBIDIUM - under 60mm

Cym. Mary Green 'Green Gables'	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
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Laeliinae - Cluster

Epi. Topaz Rose 'Rosie'	Ralf Bandt (159)	3
Lc. Unknown	Jeanette Beck (226)	2

Laeliinae Non-Standard

C. Unknown	Ralf Bandt (159)	3
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BEST LAELIINAE

Epi. Topaz Rose 'Rosie'	Ralf Bandt (159)	3
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Oncidiinae Hybrid >60mm

Ons. Red Silk 'HOF'	Ralf Bandt (159)	3
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BEST ONCIDIINAE

Ons. Red Silk 'HOF'	Ralf Bandt (159)	3
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Paphiopedilum - Non Standard

Paph. Leeaenum	Janet Adams & Gordon Ninnies (1195)	3
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Paphiopedilum - Specimen

Paph. Leeaenum	Janet Adams & Gordon Ninnies (1195)	3
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BEST PAPHIOPEDILUM

Paph. Leeaenum	Janet Adams & Gordon Ninnies (1195)	3
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Phalaenopsis Standard

Phal. Unknown	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
Phal. Ice Whisper	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	2

Phalaenopsis Non Standard

Phal. Unknown	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
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BEST PHALAENOPSIS

Phal. Unknown	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
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Vandae - Hybrid

V. Somsri Glory 'No.1'	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
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BEST VANDEACES

V. Somsri Glory 'No.1'	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
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Zygopetalinae - Intergeneric

Npp. Memoria Jimmy Lyttle x Z. Kiwi Choice	Margie Brown (59)	3
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BEST ZYGOPETALINAE

Npp. Memoria Jimmy Lyttle x Z. Kiwi Choice	Margie Brown (59)	3
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LEARNERS' GROUPS

Prior to the Main Meeting and the Southern Region Group Meeting there is a Learners' Group meeting. These meetings are designed for members to bring their problems with their plants for discussion. And also bring along plants for comments on them. Are you excited about something that has happened? Have you done something that really works?

You do not have to be a beginner to attend. They are open to all members. Come along and listen or contribute your knowledge. You will learn a lot, help someone else with a problem, and make new friends.



October Results List

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

Open Division

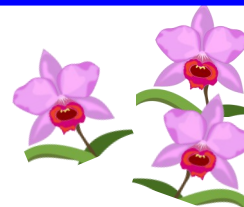
Any Other species

466	Den. striolatum 'Ruffles'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid			
467	Den. (Classic x Australian Rhubarb Pie)	Peter Haltis (442)	3
468	Den. Greta Snow	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
469	Den. Brimbank Eclipsed	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	1
Australian Native Epiphyte - Species			
465	Den. striolatum 'Bicheno Gold'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
Australian Native Terrestrial - Hybrid			
471	Diuris Earwig	Jane & Don Higgs (1302)	3
472	Ptst. Hoodwink	Jane & Don Higgs (1302)	2
Australian Native Terrestrial - Species			
470	Ptst. curta variegated	Jane & Don Higgs (1302)	3
Cymbidium 60 - 90mm All colours in Non-std			
480	Cym. [Devon Shell x (Icho Tower x Kellys	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
481	Cym. Regal Fire 'Superb'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
Cymbidium over 90mm All colours inc Non-std			
479	Cym. Lowio-grandiflorum	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std			
482	Cym. Spark Sprite	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
Laeliinae - Cluster			
477	Ctt. Adelaide Ablaze 'Red'	John Seidel (101)	3
Laeliinae - Non Standard			
478	Bc. Topaz Galaxy	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm			
473	Rlc. Burdekin Dream 'DJ'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
474	C. Prince Albert	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
Laeliinae - Standard under 100mm			
475	Rlc. Hisako Akatsuka x C. Dendi's Perfection	John Seidel (101)	3
476	C. Rosella's Magic Jewel	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
Oncidiinae - Species			
483	Cu. pulchella	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid			
495	Den. Oliver-Jack Freckles 'Gerard'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species			
496	Srps. Lingua	Jane & Don Higgs (1302)	3
497	Srps. neglecta	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
498	Max. porphyrostele 'Pinny'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	1
Orchid Seedling - any Genera			
499	Rlc. Hisako Akatsuka x C. Dendi's Perfection	John Seidel (101)	3
500	Den. Brimbank Eclipsed	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
501	Paph. Norito Hasegawa	John Seidel (101)	1
Paphiopedilum - Non Standard			
486	Paph. Norito Hasegawa	John Seidel (101)	3
487	Paph. Fanaticum 'Mouliache'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
488	Paph. Norito Hasegawa	John Seidel (101)	1
Paphiopedilum - Species			
489	Paph. venustum	John Seidel (101)	3
490	Paph. villosum	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
491	Paph. micranthum	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	1
Paphiopedilum - Standard			
484	Paph. Cocoa Pawbella 'Zodiac'	John Seidel (101)	3
485	Paph. Winston Churchill	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
Zygopetalinae - Hybrid			
492	Z. Kiwi Choice	John Seidel (101)	3
493	Fsh. Mellow x Pbt. Zodiac	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
Zygopetalinae - Species			
494	Z. crinitum	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3

First Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

446	Den. Tyabb	Joe & Denise Cassar & Ray Huddleston	3
447	Den. [(Aussie Springtime x Ellen) x	Beth Stronach (836)	2
448	Den. kingianum 'Bigfoot NRF'	Michael Gray (135)	1
Cymbidium 60 - 90mm All colours in Non-std			
450	Cym. Khanebono 'Jacinta'	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	3
451	Cym. Unknown	Beth Stronach (836)	2
Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std			
452	Cym. Sarah Jean 'Jennifer'	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	3
Laeliinae - Species			
449	C. intermedia var. aquinii orlata	Michael Gray (135)	3



October Results List cont...

Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm

454	Onsca. Aloha Iwanaga	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	3
455	Osp. Sunkissed 'Butter Cup'	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	3

Oncidiinae - Hybrid > 60mm

453	Aru. Sea Snake 'Unforgettable'	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

461	Den. Unknown	Michael Gray (135)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

459	Den. aphyllum	Joe & Denise Cassar & Ray Huddleston (1314)	3
460	Ludisia discolor	Beth Stronach (836)	

Orchid Seedling - any Genera

462	Paph. St Swithin	Michael Gray (135)	3
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Paphiopedilum - Non Standard

456	Paph. St Swithin	Michael Gray (135)	3
457	Paph. Pepper Puddle	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	2
458	Paph. Chouvetii 'Van Dyke'	Joe & Denise Cassar & Ray Huddleston (1314)	1

Second Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

431	Den. (Victorian Flare x Victorian Stripe)	Jim Fogarasi (150)	3
432	Den. Australian Sea Breeze	Helen McIntosh (299)	2
433	Den. Delicatum	Michael Holmes (363)	1

Australian Native Epiphyte - Species

430	Den. speciosum	Michael Holmes (363)	3
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Cymbidium 60 - 90mm All colours in Non-std

438	Cym. Unknown	Russell & Joy Gardiner (89)	3
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Cymbidium over 90mm All colours inc Non-std

437	Cym. Narela 'Jennifer Gail'	Helen McIntosh (299)	3
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Laeliinae - Cluster

436	Epi. Topaz Rose 'Rosie'	Ralf Brandt (159)	3
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Laeliinae - Standard under 100mm

434	Rth. Twentyfour Carat 'Lea'	Dora Schrapel (200)	3
435	C. Unknown	Ralf Brandt (159)	2

Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm

440	Ohd. Cherry Fudge	Jim Fogarasi (150)	3
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Oncidiinae - Hybrid > 60mm

439	Ons. Red Silk 'HOF'	Ralf Brandt (159)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

443	V. Somsri Glory 'No. 1'	Graham & Janette Smith (217)	3
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Paphiopedilum - Standard

441	Phal. Unknown	Graham & Janette Smith (217)	3
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Phalaenopsis Standard

442	Phal. Unknown	Ralf Brandt (159)	2
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PLANT COMMENTARY FOR OCTOBER

The meeting had a terrific number of plants benched with a total of 74 plants, sixteen on Second Division which is very encouraging .

Orchid of Second Division

The plant chosen by the Judges was a lovely *Phalaenopsis* grown by Graham & Janette Smith.

A lovely dark pink (*Phal.* Unknown) on an arching raceme and carrying seven flowers and these were on a secondary branch. The flowers were a good size and nice shape.

Congratulations Graham & Janette



PLANT OF SECOND DIVISION

Phal. Unknown

Grown by Graham & Janette Smith

Photo Phil Steer

PLANT COMMENTARY FOR OCTOBER Cont...

Orchid of First Division and Plant of the Night

The plant of First Division and Plant of the Night was an impressive *Den. aphyllum*. grown by Joe & Denise Cassar & Ray Huddleston. The plant was incorrectly labelled and this was rectified with Joe.

The plant had a long pendulous inflorescence of some 26 flowers. A very distinctive flower with soft pink/mauve segments around a large white labellum. A very attractive plant & well grown.

The habitat of this species is widespread through South-east Asia, in southern and eastern India and the tropical valleys of Sikkim and Nepal. Distribution also extends into Burma, southwest China, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam & Malaya.

Congratulations, Joe, Denise & Ray

PLANT OF FIRST DIVISION and PLANT OF THE NIGHT

Den. aphyllum

Grown by

Joe & Denise Cassar & Ray Huddleston

Photo Phil Steer



PLANT OF OPEN DIVISION *Den. striolatum* 'Bicheno Gold'

Grown by

Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju

Photo Phil Steer

Plant of Open Division

The plant of Open Division was a large pot of *Den. striolatum* 'Bicheno Gold' grown by Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju.

The plant was a dense mass of foliage with the soft brown/gold flowers standing out from the green. *Den. striolatum* is one of the terrific terete leaved Dens that we see on the showbench.

The habitat of this species includes the northeast coast of Tasmania near St. Helens, and up into mainland Australia, from east of Melbourne north to the Hunter River near Newcastle, New South Wales. Plants usually grow on rocks in very exposed locations, but they are occasionally found on trees in somewhat shady conditions. The habitat extends from sea level to 2950 ft. (0-900 m).

This was a very well grown plant and a real standout.

Well done to Michael & Oui.

Thank you to our Judges for a job well done!
Good Growing !

Phil Steer
REGISTRAR



DAYTIME CHAPTER

Thursday 9th October 2025



Hi Everyone,

Thirteen members attended the Daytime Meeting and welcomed back our Guest Speaker Phil Steer and guest Samantha Brown.

Phil provided members with an interesting and colourful Cattleya presentation including a selection of plants he and Anne have successfully grown. Following the presentation Phil demonstrated the process he follows in splitting and repotting his Cattleya including pot selection, disease management and regular care and maintenance. Many thanks Phil for another great presentation. Members have expressed their gratitude for the number of guest spots Phil has provided the Daytime group this year.

Lucky Door Prize: Dorothy Berry

Birthday of the Month: Anne Steer

Once again, the December Christmas lunch will return to the Morphet Arms Hotel, this year's lunch will commence at 12.30pm exclusively in the Dridan Room. Further details will follow our November Daytime meeting.

Many thanks to our generous members providing items for the raffle table, to Coral and Josie for their valuable assistance.

The Club Committee is finalising details for the 2026 Daytime meetings to continue each second Thursday of each month at the Marion Church of Christ Inc. Mitchell Park. Further details will be shared at the November meeting.



Popular Plant of the Day:
Paph. LEEANUM
Grown by Patty Abell

The guest speakers for our last meeting at the Lou Kesting Community Hall on 13th November are Vicky and Neil Cooper. Vicky will conduct a "Grow and Tell" discussion group. Come prepared with your questions, concerns and ideas to share and discuss. Neil will share some of his insights into his role in capturing and presenting the countless numbers of photos we see each month in the Club gazette.

Next Meeting : Thursday November 13th - 2.00 pm

Lou Kesting Hall, Off Broadway, South Brighton

Guest Speakers: Vicky and Neil Cooper

Alan Miller

0434 052 676



SOUTHERN REGION MEETING Sunday 19th October 2025

Convenor, Chris Heysen, opened the main meeting at 1:55 pm welcoming the 24 members and 4 visitors present. A special welcome to Mary Todd, Patricia Garrett and Annie Cocks who are first time visitors and hopefully new members of the club. And a special welcome to Trevor Garrard, our guest speaker. Trevor has been down here a couple of times a year for the past few years and always has interesting presentations.

Apologies: Jeanette and Graham Smith, and Di Hellier.

Guest Speaker: Trevor gave what he called a brief presentation on Cymbidium orchids – while especially not long it was filled with many interesting facts about Cym, their origins, culture and disease control. This was followed by a demonstration of how to split up and repot a large cym. We've had many repotting demonstrations before – but as always there are new things to learn from each one. Many thanks Trevor for an interesting and insightful presentation.

New Member Presentation. A new membership kit was presented to Barbara Kirke. Welcome aboard Barbara – it's great to have you as a member of the club.

Lucky Name Badge: Barbara Kirke

Lucky Door Prize: Ginny Huxtable

Announcements: Nothing this month.

The raffle was held as usual and Chris thanked the donors of raffle prizes.

Judging: was carried out by Phil Steer and Jane and Don Higgs.

Judges Commentary: Phil Steer.

The meeting closed at 3:15 pm and was followed by everyone joining in to share a cuppa and a selection of cakes and biscuits.

Chris Heysen 0419 386 769

NEXT MEETING – Sunday, 16th November.

Guest speaker will be our President, Michael Willoughby.

Michael will be talking about a display of rare glass orchids that he and Oui visited during their recent overseas trip. "The Glass Flowers" The Ware Collection in the Harvard Museum of Natural History.

October Results List

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

First Division

Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std

740	Cym. Bulbarrow 'Waikanai'	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	3
741	Cym. Devon Parish 'Ern's Choice'	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	2
742	Cym. Touchstone	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	1

Laeliinae - Cluster

751	Ctt. Trick or Treat 'Orange Delight'	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	3
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Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm

750	C. Irene Finney 'Spring Beauty'	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
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Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm

743	Ohd. Cherry Fudge 'Carmela'	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

747	Den. Sunny Delight	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
744	Phal. Snowflake	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
745	Phal. Duki 'Frosted Lady'	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	2

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

746	Phal. amabilis 'Lyn's Elegance'	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
748	Coel. flaccida 'Andrew'	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
749	Arpo. giganteum	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	2

Second Division

Cymbidium 60 - 90mm All colours in Non-std

738	Cym. Pauwelsii	Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)	3
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Laeliinae - Cluster

734	Ctt. Chit Chat 'Tangerine'	Bob Clayton (143)	3
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Laeliinae - Non Standard

735	C. Elisabeth Calov	Bob Clayton (143)	3
736	Rth. Fuchs Orange Nuggett	Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)	2
737	(Ric. Karbela Beauty x C. Ming)	Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)	1

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

739	Masd. Copper Angel 'Highland'	Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)	3
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SOUTHERN REGION PLANT COMMENTARY

This month we saw a smaller benching with only 20 plants, 7 on second division and 13 on First. Whilst short on numbers the variety and quality was terrific.

ORCHID OF SECOND DIVISION & PLANT OF THE DAY

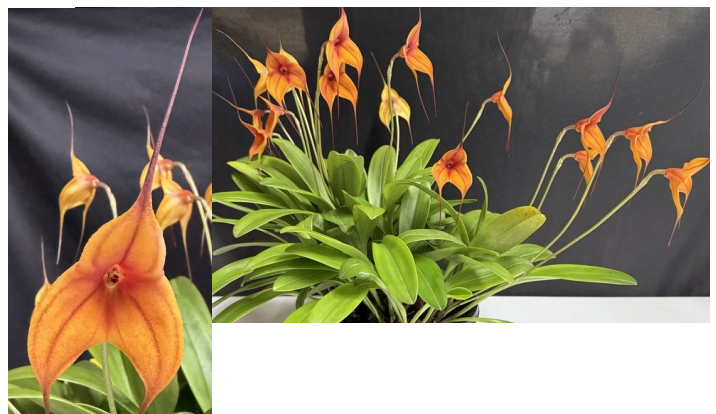
The plant chosen by the Judges was a *Masdevallia* Copper Angel 'Highland' grown by Margaret & Warren Yelland.

This was a stunning plant with 17 beautiful bronze flowers all standing tall over the foliage.

Masdevallia's are known to be very tricky to grow and need just the right conditions, low light & cool temperatures.

Masd. Copper Angel is a primary hybrid with 47 awards. Margaret has found the right balance to grow and flower this plant really well.

Congratulations Margaret & Warren



**ORCHID OF SECOND DIVISION
& PLANT OF THE DAY**
***Masd.* Copper Angel 'Highland'**
Grown by Margaret & Warren Yelland
Photos Jane Higgs

ORCHID OF FIRST DIVISION

The plant of First Division was grown by Genny & Dudley Huxtable. This was an outstanding example of *Cym. Bulbarrow* 'Waikanai' with long pendulous inflorescences one carrying 18 flowers.

The flowers were reddish/cream with a distinctive dark reddish labellum. The distinctive labellum comes from one of its parents *Cym. devonianum* (a very attractive under 60mm size flower.)

Well done Genny & Dudley.



ORCHID OF FIRST DIVISION & PLANT OF THE DAY

Cym. Bulbarrow 'Waikanai'

Grown By Genny & Dudley Huxtable

Photos Jane Higgs

Good Growing.

Phil Steer
REGISTRAR

FOR SALE:

Geoff is downsizing and has benches for sale. The benches are 36" wide, 18" high and 120" long.

He also has a fertilizer tank and pump for sale.

Please contact: Geoff 0408 806 059



VANILLA - The World's "flavourite" Orchid

Vanilla is an orchid - yes it is true. There are about 60 species scattered around the globe, but most are not suitable for the production of Vanilla beans, that culinary delight which is found in delicatessens. When I tell you what is entailed in producing this bean you will realise why it is the second most expensive spice in the world - topped only by Saffron.

Vanilla - The Flavouring: To begin, let's clear up one thing. What you regularly use in your kitchen is most likely "Imitation Vanilla", a mixture made from synthetic substances which imitate the vanilla smell and flavour. This often contains propylene glycol which is also found in automotive antifreeze! It is mass produced and relatively cheap but, of course, not in the same class as true vanilla extract.

Vanilla - Some History: *Vanilla planifolia* is indigenous to Mexico and may have been used up to 1000 years ago by the Totonac tribe as a flavouring. The Totonacas still grow vines with almost religious devotion because to them it was the gift of the gods. It is not uncommon to have a few vines growing around their houses. These are watered every day as if they were the Totonacas most valuable possession. The vanilla beans were used as a tribute to the Emperor of the Aztecs.

In 1518 the Spanish Conquistador, Herman Cortez, met with Emperor Montezuma while seeking treasures of the New World. He observed that the Emperor enjoyed a royal beverage of vanilla scented chocolate, Chocolatl (sometimes referred to as "tlilxochitl" or "xoco-latl"). Cortez was so impressed by this regal drink that when he returned to Europe, he took bags of cocoa and vanilla along with the gold, silver and jewels of Montezuma's fallen empire. Within half a century, Spanish factories were preparing vanilla-flavoured chocolate. For quite some time the Europeans continued to use vanilla only in combination with the cocoa bean.

By 1602 vanilla began to be used as a flavouring on its own - the suggestion of Queen Elizabeth's apothecary, Hugh Morgan. From then vanilla soared in popularity and became more famous than chocolate or any other flavour known before or since. For more than 300 years after its discovery by Cortez, vanilla was produced only in its native Mexico.

Vanilla planifolia blooms are only open for one day and outside of Mexico need to be hand-pollinated to produce the Vanilla pod or bean.

Plants were tried in many countries but the orchids never bore fruit. The mystery was not solved until 1836 when a Belgian named Charles Morren found that common insects could not pollinate the orchid. He observed that a tiny bee, the *Melipone*, which is found only in the *Vanilla* districts of Mexico, is uniquely equipped to pollinate the flowers. The bee did not survive outside Mexico and so Morren developed a method of hand-pollinating the *Vanilla* blossoms.

Vanilla planifolia



Soon after this discovery, the French started to cultivate *Vanilla* on many of their islands in the Indian Ocean, East and West Indies and Oceania; the Dutch planted it in Indonesia; and the British took it to southern India. Eventually the French took *Vanilla* to Reunion, an island off Madagascar. There a former slave named Edmond Albius perfected a quick and simple method of hand-pollination which is still used to this day.

This was the impetus of major cultivation in the Indian Ocean area. *Vanilla* is grown commercially even further afield now and the most recent venture I heard of was to go ahead in Papua New Guinea. Seventy-five percent of today's production is from Madagascar, Cormoro and Reunion islands. Scientists are working to improve the vanilla flavour and use tissue culture to propagate plants.

Vanilla - The Aphrodisiac: *Vanilla* is a pleasant, aromatic aphrodisiac, and may possess magical influences in physical energy as well as love. Old Totonac lore has it that Xanat, the young daughter of the Mexican fertility goddess, loved a Totonac youth. Unable to marry him due to her divine nature, she transformed herself into a plant that would provide pleasure and happiness. She became the vanilla orchid so that she could forever belong to her human love and his people. The local people still celebrate the Vanilla Festival at the end of the harvest with dances and feasts.

Vanilla - The Orchid: There are about 60 species but the one used for commercial purposes is *Vanilla planifolia* (formerly known as *Vanilla fragrans*). It is a robust, climbing vine producing a single leathery leaf about 12cm long at each node together with its roots which cling tenaciously to its host tree or, in cultivation, trellis. The vine itself can be 20mm in diameter. *Vanilla planifolia* comes in two varieties - the plain and the variegated form. The plant usually does not flower until at least 3 metres tall and it can reach a size of 20 metres and more. Very few orchid growers will have retained that piece of plant someone gave them long enough to mature, let alone see the flower. *Vanilla planifolia* hails from Mexico.

Other commercially cultivated members of the genus are *Vanilla pompona*, found in the West Indies; and *Vanilla tahitensis* which is found in Tahiti (now known as *Vanilla planifolia*). However there is another species, *Vanilla barbellata*, a leafless form which was (is?) found in south Florida and the Bahamas. It produces extremely small leaves which often quickly fall off leaving the bare vine.



Vanilla pompona



Vanilla barbellata



Vanilla tahitensis
(*V. planifolia*)



Vanilla - The Flower: The flowers are small lily-like (or some might say like a skinny cattleya flower) greenish-yellow in colour, about 40mm x 60mm in size, and develop in axillary racemes. There are usually about 20 flowers on a raceme but many more have been known to occur. Usually only one flower in a raceme opens in a day, with the entire flowering period of the raceme lasting an average of 24 days.

The individual flower has three sepals and three petals, one of the petals being enlarged and modified to form the trumpet-like lip, and a central column comprised of the united stamen and pistil. The anther is at the apex of the column and hangs over the stigma, but a flap or rostellum separates them.

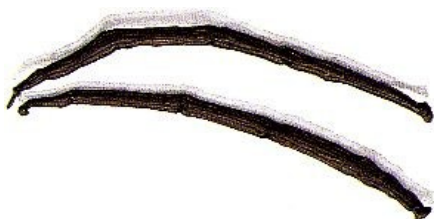
The flower opens in the morning and closes in the afternoon, never to reopen. If it is not pollinated, it will shed the next day. The optimum time for pollination is midmorning.

The *Vanilla* flower is self-fertile, but incapable of self-pollination without the aid of an outside agency to either transfer the pollen from the anther to the stigma or to lift the flap or rostellum, then press the anther against the stigma. As stated earlier most of the commercial vanilla crop relies on hand-pollination and it is said that this accounts for half the total labour cost in vanilla production. Peak flowering is usually late winter or early spring.

It is also reported that topping of the vanilla vine will force it to branch and flower earlier (after about 3 years). A good plant will produce optimum crops for about 7 or 8 years. (This may account for the reason I have never seen the old vine at the Rockhampton Botanical Gardens bloom - it is probably too old.)

Vanilla - The Bean: The seed pod develops over a period of 8 to 9 months, and to about 200mm in length. The pod is green, plump and still immature. It does not have any aroma at this stage. A good vine can produce 100 pods per year.

There are several methods of treating the pods to turn them into the black beans you know. They are dipped in hot water for two to three minutes, then sweated and dried, or the pods are spread on trays in the sun to heat for two to three hours, and then folded in blankets to sweat until the following morning. This process continues until the beans become pliable and are deep brown (this may take several months). The pods are then dried in well ventilated shade or drying rooms for a further two to four weeks.



Vanilla pods or beans ready to be harvested and begin the long curing process.

Vanilla - Cultural Needs: If you still want to try your hand at growing and, ultimately making your own *Vanilla*, here is the cultural requirements. (Not recommended for indoor culture due to size of the mature plant)

Vanilla prefers a partially shaded location. Remember it grows naturally under the forest canopy, clinging to tree trunks. The temperature should be warm (around 30°C) and night

temperatures not lower than around 15°C. Admittedly this is the optimum. As previously stated it grows here but the minimum and maximum temperatures exceed these figures.

Vanilla prefers a moist climate. The humusy soil or potting medium should be kept evenly moist at all times. Humidity should be kept high, and, as with any orchid, good air circulation is essential.

Vanilla - Extract and Flavourings: Are you getting what you think you are buying? The following is a run down to help you distinguish the real thing from the manufactured variants.

Pure Vanilla Extract liquid is made from vanilla beans, alcohol and water, with possibly sugar added. It must contain 35% alcohol; Natural Vanilla Flavour is a mix of pure vanilla extract and other natural substances extracted from natural sources other than the vanilla bean; Vanilla Flavour is a mix of pure vanilla extract and synthetic substances, most commonly vanillin; Imitation Vanilla is a mixture made from synthetic substances which imitate the vanilla smell and flavour. Artificial Vanilla, also called lignin vanillin, is a by-product of the paper industry, chemically treated to resemble the taste of real vanilla; and Ethyl Vanillin is an ingredient used in imitation vanilla which is three times as strong as artificial vanillin, and is a coal tar derivative.

In researching this article, it was noted that a USA website posted the following warning: "Cheap Vanilla bought in Mexico can be harmful." This referred to Mexican vanilla containing Tonka Bean or manufactured from Tonka Bean which has been banned in the United States for many years because it is poisonous and carcinogenic.

Vanilla - A Romantic Evening: As stated earlier, *Vanilla* is/was considered to be an aphrodisiac, so here is a recipe to consider to stimulate all five senses:

1. An arrangement of Dendrobium orchid sprays, for the eyes;
2. *Vanilla* scented candles, for the nose;
3. Chocolates served with *Vanilla* Tea, for the taste buds;
4. Massage Oil with *Vanilla* extract, for touch; and
5. Your favourite romantic music, for the ears.

Vanilla - The Uses: It does not need me to tell you that *Vanilla* complements cakes, puddings, cream, ice-cream, rice puddings, custard etc. But that high priced *Vanilla* pod or bean can be used in place of that imitation vanilla:

For cakes, puddings and sweets, keep a *Vanilla* pod in a jar of sugar to be used for baking. Top up with more sugar and the same pod will perfume the added sugar for up to a year.

For sauces, custards and ice-cream, infuse the milk with a *Vanilla* pod (stand the pod in the hot milk until a satisfactory taste level is achieved). Afterwards the pod can be rinsed, dried and returned to an airtight container. The same method can be used for syrups and poached fruit. For a stronger flavour and authentic texture, the pod can be split open and the tiny black seeds used in the dish.

For Crème chantilly, beat *Vanilla* sugar into the cream or infuse a few tablespoons of milk with a *Vanilla* pod and beat into the cream and sugar. Or for my speciality, Charlotte Russe, infuse a *Vanilla* pod in the milk to make the decadently delicious dessert.

So there you have it. If you still nurture a burning desire to cultivate your own *Vanilla* orchid and produce the "real" vanilla, you have some good beginnings here. Further, more advanced information can be found on the Internet via a search engine.



Orchid Culture Notes for November

November is the start of the dry months, temperatures are generally warm with the odd hot day but heatwaves are uncommon. Light levels are reaching their maximum intensity towards month end and humidity levels decrease. Plants as a rule are in rapid growth phase. It is also the time to take great care in protecting these vital new growths as without these there will be fewer flowers. Damage to these growths comes from many different quarters. Insect damage to soft chewable growths is common with caterpillars and aphids high on the most wanted list. Water lodging in the growths will rot leaves and take out the developing flower nodes in some varieties. Thrips abound in the dryness that November offers. These tiny sap sucking insects will retard a new growth the same as they damage flowers. *Sarcochilus* are prone to attack and November is a prime month. Distorted flowers and browning of the edges are signs of thrip.

Fertiliser will also burn out these growths and the burn marks leave the plant open to fungal infection as well as being unsightly. A couple of stray slow release fertiliser pellets will do this. Then of course with the repotting and division that takes up a lot of time at this time of the year it is the common factor of human error that will knock off a growth.

Some growths get caught up in sheaths as they grow and must be helped along a bit and others come out looking like one of those brown wrinkly dogs. This is called accordion pleating and is usually a sign of dryness. Once this occurs it cannot be reversed. If one of your growths start growing at a weird angle they will require some training to get them growing upright and this also assists in keeping the plant neat and improves the flowering display.

Inspect those plants that suffered heat damage last year as I feel this year we are heading for another extreme Summer. These plants should be grouped together if possible so they can be moved if the weather turns very hot. No point leaving them where they burnt last year. As a last effort you may need to bring them inside or somewhere cool. It's a small chore but worth it for your plants sake.

Division of most plants should be completed by now and our main focus now is on providing our plants with the assistance they need during this rapid growth phase. Feeding should be mostly high nitrogen for the *Oncidiums*, *Cattleyas*, *Zygopetalums*, *Cymbidiums* and *Paphiopedilums*. Native orchids still preferring low nitrogen feeds to avoid sappy, fungal prone poor flowering canes. Always water plants prior to feeding, adhering to the golden rule of never feeding a dry orchid. Try to give plants a good flush weekly as well and if possible use rainwater. Soluble fertilisers contain salts and when the water evaporates it leaves these salts behind. Too much can be harmful to the roots and consequently the plant. Check the surface of the mix or the drain holes of your pots. That white stuff is salt!

Not every plant in a collection will receive the same amount of water. Some will be covered by another plants leaves and receive very little. Feel the weight of a few pots and if they are light due to missing out on water, move them so they don't miss out. Dry thirsty plants won't flower well and will soon be attacked by every mite and scale you have in the shade house.

My watering ritual is a good drenching late afternoon but with enough left in the day so most plants are dry overnight. I will do a light misting first thing in the morning when I do my daily inspection. Mounted epiphytes may get an extra watering during the day if very hot. Remember some pots will dry out faster than others, as will some



Orchid Culture Notes for November Cont ...

Placement will also be a factor with hanging plants drying out at a much faster rate. The rule here is not to water every plant the same amount every day. What might be enough for one will flood another. This is particularly important when growing a large number of different genera.

Foliar feeding is also recommended during the growth season. This is particularly important to mounted plants. I tend to balance my feeding with organic and inorganic fertiliser and tend to be weaker in the feeding strength than those in pots. Many of these plants are species orchids and as such are a little more sensitive. When foliar feeding, don't forget the undersides of leaves as this is where their stomata are (breathing pores). Fertiliser is absorbed via these pores. That's one reason why we water first. The plants when watered open up these pores.

After flowering we find our terrestrial orchids will be drying out. Watering will be reduced to an occasional mist to keep the mix just slightly moist. It will soon be time to start thinking about repotting them but I leave that until January. Any later and they are usually on the move again and I do not want to damage any developing shoots.

On the subject of avoiding damage, if you have to divide a Cattleya or an Oncidium, now is a great time to do it. The new growths will be well under way and should be showing new roots. When divided now these roots will continue to grow into the mix and feed the plant without too much setback unless your division was too small. If you leave it too late these roots will grow too long and will most likely be damaged in the process. If damaged then they won't feed the plant as well and it will suffer. So much so flowering could be a non-event for this season.

Steve Howard

SCOCSA COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOMINATION FORM

Please use this form to nominate new committee members.

Nominee's Name

Proposed by

Seconded by

Position Nominated for

Nominee Accepted

**Please complete and hand to Secretary or Anne Steer
Nominations must be received by the close of the December Meeting**

ORCHID CLUBS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA **General Meeting Times**

THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: In 2024, the Club will meet at the Marion - Warradale Uniting Church Hall, Cnr. Township Road and Church Crescent, Marion. at 8.00p.m. on the first Wednesday of the Month

THE DAYTIME CHAPTER: meets at the Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton on the second Thursday of the month at 2.00p.m.

THE SOUTHERN REGION: meets at Carrickalinga House, 17-19 Torrens Street, Victor Harbor at 2.00p.m. on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

THE ORCHID CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: meets at 8pm in The Enfield Community Centre, 540 Regency Road, Enfield on the 1st Thursday of the month.

Daytime Group: meets from 2.00p.m. to 4.00p.m. in the Enfield Community Centre, 540 Regency Road, Enfield on the 2nd Friday of the month.

THE MURRAY BRIDGE AND DISTRICT ORCHID CLUB: meets at 1.45pm in the Seventh Day Adventist Hall, corner Myall Avenue and Standen Street, Murray Bridge on the 4th Sunday of the month.

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ORCHIDACEOUS SOCIETY: Meets at the Plympton Community Centre, 34 Long Street, Plympton from 7.30p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

THE NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: meets at 7.30p.m. at St. Matthew's Church Hall, Bridge Street, Kensington on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

THE CYMBIDIUM CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Meets at 7.30p.m. at Burnside Community Centre, 401 Greenhill Road, Tasmore on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

THE GAWLER DISTRICTS ORCHID CLUB: meets at the Elderly Centre 37 Fourteenth Street, Gawler at 8 pm on the 2nd Thursday of the Month.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL ORCHID COUNCIL: Represents all clubs in South Australia on the Australian Orchid Council. Meets three or four times a year, at which meetings all clubs are represented by a delegate or a proxy delegate. SAROC conducts the **SA Orchid Fair** in June each year.



**If unclaimed please return to
P.O. Box 1060 Flagstaff Hill S.A. 5159**



**People who submit articles to the Club for inclusion in our Gazette express
opinions which are not necessarily those of the Club.
No guarantee is provided to anyone using the ideas & opinions expressed in
these articles.
Items must be delivered to the Editor by the second Thursday of each month.**